



3

# Libell Blaff

ETOROUJI SHONO

PARENTAL ADVISORY  
**WARNING**  
EXPLICIT LYRICS













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BE-  
GONE  
!!

GET  
AWAY  
FROM  
ME!

STAY  
BACK  
...!!  
....

I'M A  
HERO  
.....!!

I'M ONE  
OF THE  
SEVEN  
HEROES  
...!

I'M...

AND  
JUST  
AS THE  
CASTLE  
IS  
MOVING  
OUT...

...MORE  
MILLI-  
ON-  
IONS...

STAY  
BACK  
...

BE-  
GONE  
...

*Der Schatten des Blatts*  
*(The Shadow of the Blade)*







KÖIN-  
ZELL'S  
GONE!











...THOSE  
KNIGHTS ARE  
FIGHTING THE  
BAD MAN WHO  
WANTS TO KILL  
BATTERYGRAVE  
BARESTAR.

NO...



A  
DEMON-  
HUMAN  
HUNT  
...?!



ANYONE  
WHO TRIES  
TO HURT  
THE SEVEN  
HEROES  
MUST BE  
EVIL.

...YOU  
MUSTN'T  
SAY SUCH  
THINGS.

HMPH  
...



BUT  
THAT GUY  
WITH THE  
BRAIDS IS  
SO COOL.

HE'S  
A BAD  
MAN?  
HMM?



...THE  
SEVEN  
HEROES  
ARE THE  
GOOD  
GUYS,  
RIGHT?

SO  
THEN...





NO  
SURPRISE,  
YOUR  
TALENT  
SHINES  
WHEN  
YOU'VE  
A TRUE  
SWORD IN  
HAND...!



DID YOU  
KILL THE  
HERO  
LANDGRAVE  
SCHTEM-  
WÖLECH  
WITH THIS  
BLADE...?

.....  
DID  
YOU...



...HAS  
DONE MUCH  
TO EMPOWER  
AND PROTECT  
DEMI-  
HUMANS...

OUR  
CURRENT  
EMPEROR,  
HIS  
HIGHNESS  
LARGOR  
III...

...YET YOU  
TURN YOUR  
BLADE  
ON HIS  
REGIME...!

HOW  
DESPI-  
CABLY  
UN-  
GRATE-  
FUL!





MY  
FRIENDS  
...

IT WAS  
ALL STOLEN  
BY THOSE  
"HEROES"...

EVEN MY  
BODY WAS  
FOREVER  
TRANS-  
FORMED...!

...MY...

...MY OWN  
RIGHTEOUS  
LOYAL  
PATH...



YOU...

WHAT  
ARE YOU  
SAYING  
.....?



...YOU  
WOULD  
CALL ME  
LINGRATE-  
FUL....!/?

AFTER  
ALL  
THAT...







...NO.



DAMN!  
HE  
SLIPPED  
AWAY!







**...WON'T  
MOVE  
.....!?**

**MY  
BODY...**



**HE'S  
INSIDE MY  
BARRIER  
NOW...**



**IT  
DIRECTLY  
TARGETS HIS  
FAIRY BLOOD  
TO DRAW HIS  
BODY AND  
MIND INTO  
A DEEP  
SLEEP.**

**HE'S  
CAUGHT IN  
THE CENTER  
OF THE  
"LULLABY OF  
DEMISE"  
.....!**



...ARE  
FADING,  
DRAWN  
INTO THE  
ABYSS  
OF  
SLEEP  
...!!!

HIS  
BODY  
AND  
MIND...



THERE'S NO  
WAY HE'S  
GETTING OUT  
OF THIS!

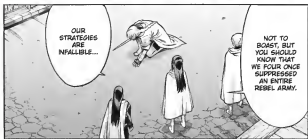
THE  
NATURAL  
BARRIER  
CREATED BY  
THE DENSE  
POPULATION  
OF DEAD-  
HUMANS  
HERE...

...ONLY  
SERVES TO  
STRENGTHEN  
MY OWN...



I-I'M  
SORRY,  
MY LADY.

COULDN'T  
YOU HAVE  
ARRIVED  
SOONER,  
ELTZEN?





YOU'LL BE  
IN A DEEP  
SLEEP WHEN  
I END YOUR  
LIFE...

DON'T  
WORRY.



YOUR  
DEATH  
WILL BE  
PAINLESS.



!!

CERTAINLY  
NOT THIS  
REGION'S  
BATTERY-  
GRAVE  
BARESTAR  
.....!!

...NO  
MORE  
HEROES  
WILL FALL  
TO YOUR  
BLADE!

HOW-  
EVER...

YOU'RE A  
SPLENDID  
SWORDS-  
MAN.



**BARESTAR**  
ooooooo!!!











...HAS ORDERED THAT THE FREE CITY BE PUNISHED FOR HARBORING CRIMINALS.

BATTERY-  
GRAVE  
BARE-  
STAR...

MY GOOD  
SOLDIERS...  
WHAT'S THE  
MEANING OF  
THIS?

MY, MY...  
WHAT  
IMPRESSIVE  
SIEGE  
TOWERS...



**LET'S  
MOVE  
OUT!!**

VILLAGE  
ELDER.

WE THANK  
YOU FOR  
THE PROVI-  
SIONS.

WHAT A  
MIGHTY  
DISPLAY  
...

AS  
YOU'D  
EXPECT  
OF OUR  
JUST  
HERO,  
LORD  
BARE-  
STAR...



*Junge Blätter*  
(*Young Leaves*)

◆I◆



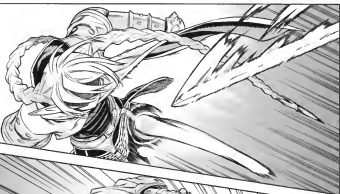
SHIT  
SHIT

SHIT

THIS  
BARRIER  
.....!!

SHIT...









SO  
BRAVE



...EVEN  
WOUNDED

IT'S HIS  
ALLY...!



...THEN  
YOU'LL  
HAVE NO  
QUARTER  
FROM ME!

IF YOU  
WOULD DEFY  
US IN THE  
NAME OF THIS  
REBEL.....

NEVER-  
THE-  
LESS.





...YOU AREN'T  
FOCUSED ON  
WATCHING THE  
ENEMY. YOU  
CAN'T FIGHT  
PROPERLY.

WHEN  
YOU'RE  
WITH  
ME...





...NOT  
REALLY  
KÖIN-  
ZELL'S  
ENEMIES  
...!!

RIGHT  
...  
THEY'RE  
...



SHIT...  
THAT  
BARRIER  
VANISHED,  
BUT...

...MY  
BODY'S  
STILL  
SLUG-  
GISH...

AT THIS  
RATE,  
AM'S  
GOING  
TO.....





MASTER...

ASSISTANT  
INSTRUCTOR  
GLEA...



WHAT...

...AN  
EARNEST  
CHILD...



JUST  
BECAUSE  
OF  
WHAT I  
SAID...

AHT,  
YOU...



FOR  
THE  
FIRST  
TIME...

...I'M  
SEEING  
IT IN  
SOMEONE  
ELSE...

THE  
STRENGTH  
OF WILL  
YOU TWO  
IMPARTED  
TO ME...



AHT !!

TORMENTING  
THE  
INJURED  
ISN'T MY  
STYLE,  
BUT.....

...TAKING  
ADVANTAGE  
OF THE  
ENEMY'S  
WEAKNESS...  
...WILL  
BRING US  
VICTORY!

DASH  
(CHARLADY)



THOSE  
EYES OF  
HIS.....!!



AGAIN...

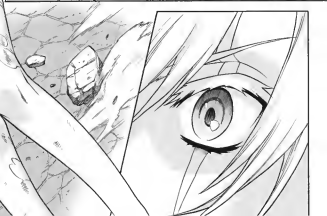


WHAT IS  
IT ABOUT  
HIM...!?

HE  
DOESN'T  
SEEM  
LIKE A  
TYPICAL  
REBEL













NOT  
YET,  
AHT...

I'M NOT  
SATISFIED  
YET....!!



...NO.  
NOT  
YET  
...!



AH  
...

AHT  
...



**I'LL  
TRAIN  
YOU...!!**

**I'LL...  
TAKE  
YOU  
WITH  
ME!!**

**AHT...  
GET...**

**GET  
STRON-  
GER FOR  
ME...**



**I'LL...**

**...GIVE  
YOU MY  
LIFE-  
BLOOD...**

**SO  
PLEASE...**











*Junge Blätter*  
(Young Leaves)  
◆II◆



PLEASE,  
AHT...

AH...

.....AH...

ENDURE  
IT...

GUH...

UNH...

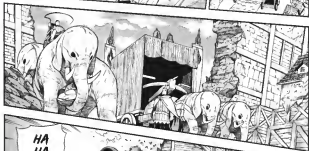
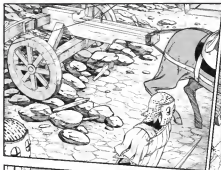
TAKE MY  
BLOOD...

...AND  
MAKE IT  
YOUR OWN...!

UWAAH...!

UGH...

AH...







WHAT  
IS THE  
MEAN-  
ING OF  
THIS!!?



...  
LADY  
EL-  
SARIA  
.....!?

LA...



CEASE THIS  
SHAMEFUL  
ACT AND  
WITHDRAW  
YOUR  
TROOPS!!

SAVE  
YOUR  
EXCUS-  
ES!



W-WELL,  
YOU  
SEE...  
LADY  
ELSARIA  
...

THIS  
...  
WELL  
...



THE  
ELECTOR'S  
DAUGHTER  
...

YOU'RE THE  
ONE WALGE  
MENTIONED.

.....I  
SEE...



.....?









YOU  
UNDER-  
STAND  
ME...!?

I HAVE NO  
USE FOR  
INCOMPETENTS...

THERE'S  
NO TIME  
TO WORRY  
ABOUT  
THAT...!



WE'LL  
TAKE OVER  
THIS FREE  
CITY...

...AND  
EXECUTE  
ITS  
LORD.



THEN WE'LL  
REPORT THE  
REBELS'  
ACTIONS TO  
THE CAPITAL.

!?

WALGE  
IS WELL-  
SUITED  
FOR THE  
POSITION.

IN HIS  
PLACE,  
WE'LL  
INSTALL...  
YES...





...AGAINST  
OUR  
ENTIRE  
ARMY...

IT'S  
YOU  
FOUR...



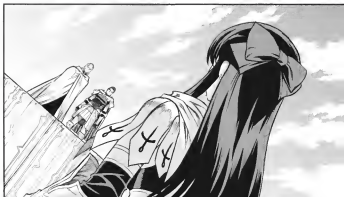
...THERE'LL  
BE NO NEED  
FOR OUR  
TROOPS TO  
HUNT DOWN  
ANY OF  
MARQUIS  
GLENN'S  
KNIGHTS...

SO IF  
YOU'LL  
AGREE  
TO STAND  
BACK AND  
WATCH...

THIS IS A  
MATTER  
FOR OUR  
TERRI-  
TORY  
TO DEAL  
WITH...



\*\*\*\*\*









HOW  
CAN WE  
IGNORE  
SUCH  
BARBA-  
RISM  
.....!?









BROTHER...  
TODAY,  
KONGELL,  
HE...



...READY...

I'M...

THAT'S  
WHY...

IT MADE  
ME SO  
HAPPY...!

?

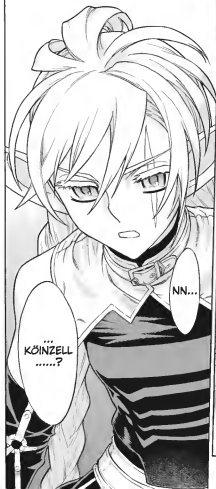
NOT  
YET...

I'M NOT  
SATISFIED  
YET...

...  
AHT  
...!

***Herz des Kämpfers  
(Heart of Warriors)***





...  
KÖINZELL  
.....?

NN...







I  
THOUGHT  
THEY  
WERE  
GOOD  
GUYS...!!

WHY'S  
THE  
HERO  
ATTACK-  
ING...!?

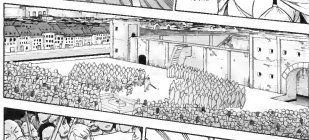
MOM-  
MY...  
WHAT'S  
GOING  
ON  
...!?



MISS  
ALTEA,  
THIS  
WAY!

THIS IS  
AWFUL  
...







YOU...  
YOU JUST  
ACCEPT  
THAT!?

BUT TO  
LET THEM  
RUN WILD  
IN OUR  
BELOVED  
CITY...



...THAT  
WE  
CAN'T  
WIN!!

AND I  
KNOW  
FULL  
WELL...



!!!



.....



KYAAH!!

UWAAH!!



LET'S  
MOVE  
!!!



!!



...  
BUT  
...

I DON'T  
WANT  
TO HURT  
YOU...

...IF YOU  
REFUSE  
TO BACK  
DOWN....!!!



!!

DEL...

...DEL-  
ZERE  
...?!



STOP  
THIS...

...  
ALGRD.















AS  
...

...AS  
YOU SAY!

...AND  
PASSING  
JUDG-  
MENT  
ON EACH  
ONE...!

DEVOTE ALL  
MANPOWER  
TO ROOTING  
THEM OUT...

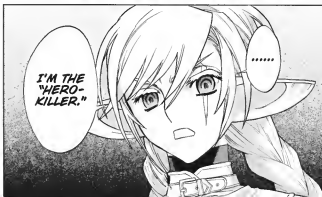
TELL THEM  
THERE ARE  
SCORES OF  
TREASONOUS  
REBELS  
HIDING IN  
THE CITY...















GET HIM !!

G...  
G...  
GE...

...THE  
HERO-  
KILL-  
ING...

...  
**REBEL  
!!?**

HE'S  
ONLY  
ONE  
MAN!

WHAT'S  
WRONG?!

TAKE THE  
HERO-  
KILLER'S  
HEAD...  
...AND  
MAKE  
NAMES  
FOR YOUR-  
SELVES!!

**Gegenangriff  
(Counterattack)**





YOU HAVE  
NO PROBLEM  
VIOLATING THE  
GOOD PEOPLE  
OF THE EMPIRE,  
BUT YOU CAN'T  
LIFT A FINGER  
AGAINST A  
"REBEL"?

THE SEVEN  
HEROES'  
TROOPS  
ARE BRAVE  
INDEED.

WELL?  
ARE WE  
FIGHTING  
OR NOT?





...  
**WE'LL  
KILL  
YOUUU  
!!!**

**WE'LL  
...**



**KILL  
HIM!!**

**IT'S  
JUST  
ONE  
KID!**

**HE'S  
RUSH-  
ING...**

**SHIT.  
BETTER  
JOIN  
HIM...**



**RAA-  
AAAH  
!!!**





GYAAAH!!!









EEK...!!

GYAAAGH!!

WHAT'RE  
YOU TWO  
WAITING  
FOR?

GET  
OUT OF  
HERE!!

O...

OKAY!!

.....











WE  
HAVE AN  
ARMY...

HE'S  
JUST  
ONE  
BRAT...

WH-WH-  
WHY BE  
SCARED  
OF  
HIM...?

DAMN...SO  
THAT'S  
THE HERO-  
KILLING  
REBEL...!?



WHAT  
IS IT  
NOW.....?

COM-  
MANDER  
WALGE!!



W  
H  
A  
A  
T  
!?

...BUT NOW  
THEY'VE COME  
TOGETHER TO  
OPPOSE OUR  
PILLAGING—  
I MEAN, OUR  
EFFORTS TO  
ROOT OUT  
REBELS.....

THE CITY'S  
VIGILANTE  
CORPS AND  
A GROUP OF  
ARMED  
CIVILIANS HAD  
BEEN STARING  
EACH OTHER  
DOWN IN THE  
PLAZA...













I  
WITNESSED  
THAT  
TERRIBLE  
LOSS.  
  
SO  
NOW...



.....

I WON'T  
ABANDON  
YOU.





HE'S CHANGED THE FLOW OF THE BATTLE ALL ON HIS OWN.....







OKAY.

LET'S  
MOVE.

...BUT  
NOW WE'RE  
FIGHTING  
WITH HIM?

EARLIER  
TODAY  
HE WAS A  
"REBEL" WE  
WERE MEANT  
TO KILL...

NO!  
WE'RE  
NOT  
HELPING  
HIM!

...IS  
FIGHT  
THESE  
PILLAG-  
ERS!!

...WHAT  
I WILL  
DO...



...MOVE  
IN!

A-ANY-  
WAY...

YEAH,  
YEAH.

THIS  
IS TO  
PROTECT  
THE  
PEOPLE  
OF THE  
CITY...



GYAAAAAH!!!



SOMEONE  
ELSE  
FROM  
BEHIND  
...!!?

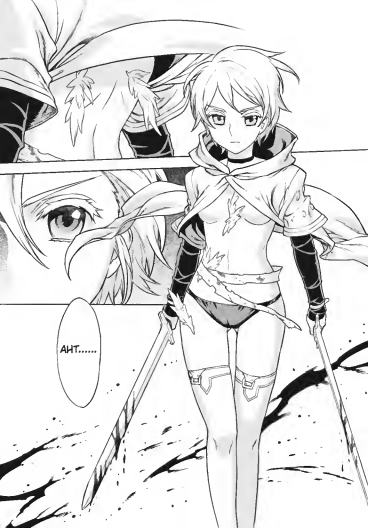


WH...  
...WHO'S  
THIS  
NOW!?



YOU'VE  
COME.





AHT.....



## Schlag (Strike)





GLAD TO  
SEE YOU  
UP AND  
ABOUT...

...AHT.

YEAH.

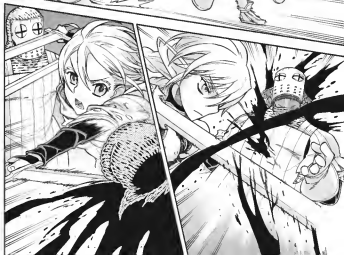


WATCH  
MY  
BACK.



**LEAVE  
IT TO  
ME!**









D...

...DAMN YOU!!

WELL...

SHALL WE?

"ALLIES"?  
NOT IN THE  
LEAST...

WE ARE,  
HOWEVER,  
YOUR  
ENEMY!!







...TO  
REQUEST  
REAR  
SUPPORT  
FROM THE  
BATTERY-  
GRAVE.

I'M  
RETURNING  
TO THE  
CASTLE...



HO...  
...HOLD  
ON!!

H-HEY,  
BUT...



UNDER NO  
CIRCUM-  
STANCES  
MAY YOU  
RETREAT.



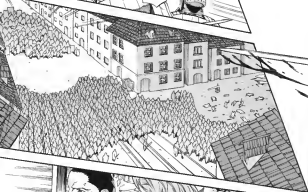
WALOE.  
I NEED  
YOU TO  
REORGANIZE  
OUR FRONT  
LINE.



KEEP  
AWAY  
!!

ST...  
...  
**STAY  
BACK  
!!**





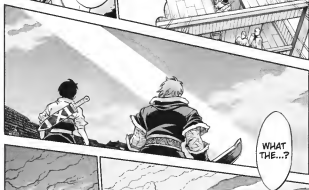














© 2004  
Shueisha

!!!









WH-WHAT  
WAS  
THAT.....?



WHAT  
HAP-  
PENED  
.....!!?



Unordnung  
(Chaos)





THAT WAS ...  
...A  
MAGIC  
ARTIL-  
LERY  
ATTACK  
...!



OUR  
GREAT  
BATTERY-  
GRAVE,  
LORD  
BARESTAR,  
HAS  
COME TO  
BATTLE...

H-HOW  
DO YOU  
LIKE  
THAT!?

...IN  
HIS  
FLOAT-  
ING  
CASTLE  
...

...TO  
ERADI-  
CATE  
EVERY  
LAST  
ONE OF  
YOU  
REBELS  
!!

!!?







KOIN-  
ZELL...

YEAH.

WE'RE  
HEADING  
UP  
THERE,  
RIGHT?

!?

LOOK  
OVER  
THERE  
...

KOIN-  
ZELL...

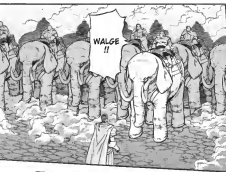
...TO  
SAVE  
ME THE  
TROUBLE  
OF  
FINDING  
YOU...!!

HOW  
KIND  
...











HIGYAAAH...



EEEEEEK!!?





**WHAT  
OF  
THEM  
!!!?**

**BUT  
BATTERY-  
GRAVE...  
YOUR  
COMMAND-  
ERS AND  
TROOPS  
ARE DOWN  
BELOW...**



**HA-HA-  
HA-HA-HA!  
BEHOLD!  
IMPUDENT  
FREE CITY!**

**THIS  
IS WHAT  
HAPPENS  
WHEN YOU  
BUILD  
SHIPS FOR  
GLENN  
IN MY  
DOMAIN!**

**FIRE!**

**BLOW  
THEM  
AWAY  
!!!**



**...IS  
MINE TO  
TAKE OR  
DESTROY  
AS I  
SEE FIT!!**

**EVERY-  
THING  
WITHIN THE  
BATTERY-  
GRAVATE...**

**THEY  
DON'T  
CON-  
CERN  
ME!!**





TELL US  
EXACTLY  
WHAT'S  
GOING ON  
HERE!!

...YOU SAID  
THAT  
"FLOATING  
CASTLE" IS  
THE BATTERY-  
GRAVE'S,  
CORRECT...?

YOU...













SHIT

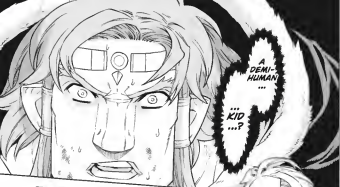
...

THEY'VE  
GONE  
TOO  
FAR...!!









A  
DEMI-  
HUMAN  
...

...  
KID  
...?



...SAVE  
ME...??

DID HE  
JUST...



Gefühl zu...  
(With Feeling)







KEEP  
IT TO-  
GETH-  
ER!!

LEAD THE  
TOWNS-  
FOLK TO  
SHELTER!!

EEEE!

UWAAH  
!!



DON'T  
WORRY,  
HONEY.

HELP IS  
COMING.

MA'AM,  
IT'S NOT  
SAFE  
HERE!

YOU  
NEED  
TO  
HURRY  
AND—







**HMPH  
...!**

**IT TOOK  
LESS  
THAN A  
DAY TO  
RAZE THE  
CITY.....!**



**HA-  
HA-HA-  
HA-HA-  
HA-HA-  
HA!!!**

**BURN,  
BURN!!**

**JULLAS-  
ABLLAS IS  
ABLAZE!!**







GYAA-  
AAAHH  
!!

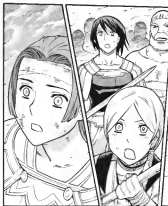
















...A  
HERO  
...!?





ALGRO!!







**FOR  
OUR  
HERO  
!!**









...BUT  
EVERY-  
ONE  
HERE  
KNOWS  
NOW...

THEY  
KNOW  
YOU'RE A  
HERO...!!



***Belohnung für die  
Tapferen Männer  
(Reward for the Brave)***







YOU  
RIDERS  
TAKE  
CARE OF  
HIM.....

...AND  
EXTERMINATE  
THE RABBLE  
IN THE FREE  
CITY!!

...I'M NEEDED  
ELSEWHERE TO  
CARRY OUT AN  
ORDER FROM  
THE BATTERY-  
GRAVE!

I'M...

TH-THIS  
GUY...  
HE'S...

...TOO  
MUCH  
FOR  
US!!

GWAA-  
AAAA-  
AAH!!



G...

...  
COM-  
MAND-  
ER!!!



THE  
BATTERY-  
GRAVE  
COVETS IT.  
IF I CAN  
STEAL  
IT.....

THE  
LATEST  
MASCHINEN-  
DRACHE  
FLAGSHIP  
COMMI-  
SSIONED BY  
MARGUIS  
GLENN.....



HE'LL BE  
FREE TO  
USE THE  
ARTIL-  
LERY...

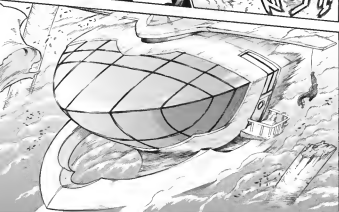
...TO  
BURN THE  
CITY TO  
CINDERS  
.....!!













YOU  
WOULD  
SNATCH  
MARQUIS  
GLENN'S  
SHIP IN  
THIS  
CHAOS...?

HAVE  
YOU NO  
SHAME  
!!!!?







**WHY  
ONLY  
YOU  
...!!?**



THERE'S  
NOTHING  
TO BE  
DONE...

**BUT...**

**BUT  
WHY!?**

THEY'VE  
DENIED MY  
REQUEST  
TO BUILD A  
FLAGSHIP...!?

.....UN-  
ACCEPT-  
ABLE...!!



THE  
CAPITAL'S  
DECISION IS  
FINAL...



SO WHY  
COULDN'T  
I.....!?

HE WAS  
ALLOWED TO  
BUILD IT IN  
THE FREE CITY—  
IN MY DOMAIN...

GLENN'S  
SHIP...





WHY ARE  
YOU THE ONLY  
ONE ALLOWED  
TO HAVE  
POWER.....!?

DAMN IT...  
WHY...?

FUCKING  
GLENN...



AND NOW  
THIS NEW  
FLAG-  
SHIP...!?

YOU'VE  
GOT THAT  
DAMNED  
ORDER OF  
THE SEVEN  
LANCES...



YOU WERE  
GIVEN  
TERRITORY  
NEAR THE  
CAPITAL...



WHAT  
...



...WHAT  
SEPARATES  
ME FROM  
GLENN!?!?

...  
NO  
...!





**WE'RE  
NO  
DIFFER-  
ENT...!!**

**WE'RE  
...**

**...WE'RE  
SUP-  
POSED  
TO BE  
EQUALS  
.....!!**



...LET  
ALONE REACH  
THE SEAL  
ALTAR AND  
COMPLETE THE  
MISSION...

THOSE  
FOUR'LL  
NEVER MAKE  
IT BACK  
ALIVE...

WHAT  
SHOULD  
WE  
DO...?!

SO...  
THEY'VE  
GONE...



WE'LL  
RETURN AND  
REPORT TO  
HIS HIGHNESS.  
HE'LL UNDER-  
STAND...

THIS MISSION  
WAS ALWAYS  
DOOMED TO  
FAIL.....







NO...NO  
NEED TO  
WORRY  
ABOUT  
THAT...

EVEN  
ASCHERIT  
COULDN'T.....



BARE-  
STAR...



AND IF  
HE DOES  
MANAGE IT  
AGAINST  
ALL ODDS...



HE'S.....  
ASCHERIT'S  
NO  
ORDINARY  
GUY...

WE  
SHOULDN'T  
UNDER-  
ESTIMATE  
HIM...



...WHAT  
BECOMES  
OF THOSE  
OF US  
WHO  
GAVE UP  
HERE...?



WE, WHO'VE  
OVERCOME  
HARDSHIPS  
THAT WOULD'VE  
BROUGHT A  
SMALL ARMY TO  
DESPAIR...

EVEN WE,  
WHO'VE  
COME THIS  
FAR...



HE'S  
CAPABLE  
OF ANY-  
THING...

...AND  
HE'LL DO  
IT WITH A  
FUCKING  
SMILE!

IT'S  
ALWAYS  
BEEN LIKE  
THAT...











# FLOATING CASTLES

## SCHWEBENDE BURG

At the time of the empire's founding, a number of minor kings ruled in the surrounding lands, some of whom based themselves within airborne masses of rock. These were naturally occurring floating castles.

With their unmatched ability to command flying dragon brigades, these kings and their followers often pillaged land-based settlements, growing rich and influential in turn.

Although they enjoyed a long period of unchallenged rule, the kings were forced into conflict when the empire began expanding, turning a number of the conquered settlements into disputed territories.



**Hag'dagd Castle**

The floating castle of the Agd tribe, which once ruled present-day Deem.

**Kel'deelehhk Castle**

A castle built on an unusual rock formation with floating properties located just north of Smaillon, the imperial capital. It would eventually break away from its mountain to become a true floating castle and thereafter be led into battle, moved by a flying dragon brigade.



The empire despaired in the face of the unassailable castles, so for hundreds of years these kings' supremacy remained untouched.

However, in 1181 A.D. (Anno Donatio), the great Emperor Krafad led a massive dragon-based assault on the Balgruna region, long ruled by one of these lesser kings. This heralded a drastic upheaval.

The emperor learned from the captured king's unique dragon-based battle strategies, and empire scholars conducted extensive research on the floating castles.

The empire learned how to construct its own floating castles thanks to the scholars' research, and it began to suppress the many lesser kings, who still relied on naturally occurring floating castles.

Most of the kings were wiped out in the ensuing battles with the empire.

However, a small number managed to resist by producing new, stronger castles with the techniques used by the empire.

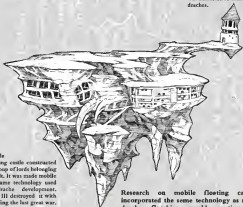
Among those who enhanced their own castles and resisted takeover were a few with ties to Wichtech and its heretical cults.

However, the military supremacy of floating castles was ended when, during the 3400s, maschinendrache technology emerged, leading to the creation of larger and larger airships.



**Ravenshead Castle**

A castle constructed using the fossil of a giant dragon that had accumulated a massive volume of drachestein in its body. It fell to the earth some time during the 1600s, when the drachestein powering it was extracted to construct maschinendraches.



**Krau-Ladron Castle**

A massive floating castle constructed in secret by a group of lords belonging to a heretical cult. It was made mobile thanks to the same technology used in maschinendrache development. Emperor Largot III destroyed it with his flagships during the last great war.

Research on mobile floating castles that incorporated the same technology as maschinendrache flagships would continue through approximately 3960 A.D.

After the last great war, however, the empire placed heavy restrictions on maschinendrache construction and completely outlawed the creation of new floating castles.

Despite this, both engineers and would-be rebels alike (who see floating castles as symbols of resistance against the empire) continue to dream of building more of these impressive flying fortresses.

*Libelblatt*



THE  
FREE CITY  
HAS COME  
TO THE AID  
OF THE HERO-  
KILLING  
REBEL AND  
IS STAGING  
A REVOLT...

...SO I'LL  
BLAME THE  
SHIP'S THEFT  
ON THE RABBLE  
AND HIDE IT IN  
THE NORTHERN  
MOUNTAINS  
FOR NOW...

BUT  
BEFORE  
THAT...  
THERE ARE  
TOO MANY  
HERE WHO  
KNOW TOO  
MUCH.

THIS  
FLOATING  
CASTLE AND  
THAT SHIP  
ARE ALL I  
NEED TO  
WIPE THEM  
OFF THE  
MAP!

KEH  
HEH  
HEH...I  
FINALLY  
HAVE  
IT...

A  
DRAGON  
AIRSHIP  
...!!



AH  
HA  
HA  
HA  
HA  
HA  
HA  
HA!!!

HA...

AH  
HA...

Keil  
(:Wedge)





GYAAAH!!!

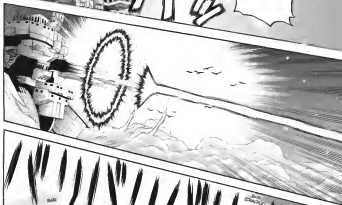


HA  
HA!!



YOU  
FOOLISH  
INSECTS  
!!

YOU'VE  
GONE AND  
FLOWN RIGHT  
BETWEEN  
THE CASTLE  
AND MY NEW  
SHIP.....









I'M CHECK-  
ING THE  
CON-  
TROLS  
NOW!

ARE THE  
CANNONS  
READY  
YET?!

...HERE,  
MAYBE?

THIS  
SHOULD  
FIRE THE  
MAIN ONE  
AT ANY  
RATE.



OF  
COURSE  
I AM!

I  
UNDERSTAND  
WHY YOU  
THREE MIGHT  
HESITATE,  
BUT.....



...ARE  
YOU  
SURE  
ABOUT  
THIS?



EXCEL-  
LENT...  
NOW...

...FIRE  
AT THAT  
FLOATING  
CASTLE!!





EVIL  
PERPE-  
TRATED  
IN THE  
NAME  
OF A  
"HERO"

.....

...MUST  
BE  
JUDGED  
ALL THE  
SAME!!









MY  
SHIP!  
WHY  
...!!!?



WH...

WH...  
WHA  
...!!!?



...  
...  
...  
...  
...  
...  
!!!





AH!

AKH!

KH!

AGH  
!!



NN-  
GAH  
...

FIRE  
...

RE-  
TURN  
FIIIRE  
!!!



A  
A  
A  
A  
A  
A  
A  
A  
A  
H  
!!!



**EVADE  
!!!**





...WE'LL  
REACH  
THE  
TOWER  
AND  
THEN...

LET'S  
APPROACH  
FROM  
BELOW...

FLY  
ALONG THE  
WALL TO  
AVOID THE  
ATTACKS!

AHT.





HUH  
!?



AHT.

COME  
BACK  
FOR  
ME.

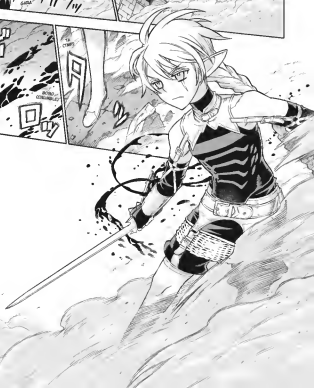




**BARESTAR!!!**



**UWA-  
AAAHH  
!!!**









...WE'VE  
ALMOST  
REACHED  
THE FREE  
CITY.

HOW  
EXCITING.

I'VE  
FINALLY  
BEEN  
ORDERED  
TO BRING  
HIM  
DOWN...

I JUST  
HOPE  
THOSE FOUR  
HAVEN'T  
TAKEN HIM  
YET...

...ICHFEIS  
AND  
KOINZELL  
WILL...

IF  
ELGARU'S  
GROUP  
HASN'T  
SUCCEEDED,  
THEN...





WHOA.

WHAT ...

...WHAT'S HAP-  
PENED  
.....!?

THIS IS  
AWFUL!

!!?

Barestar

◆ I ◆



WHAT'S  
GOING  
ON  
HERE!!?



BUT  
...

...WHY  
IS THAT  
CASTLE  
.....?

THAT  
MASCHINEN-  
DRACHE  
FLAGSHIP...  
MARGUIS GLENN  
COMMISSIONED  
JULLAS-ABILLAS  
TO BUILD IT  
FOR HIM...



NO...

KÖINZELL'S  
NOT THE  
TYPE TO  
DIE LIKE  
THIS...



...AL-  
READY  
DEAD,  
DO YOU  
THINK?



IS  
HE...







ARE  
YOU ALL  
RIGHT?

WHAT'S  
WRONG?

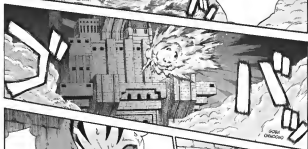




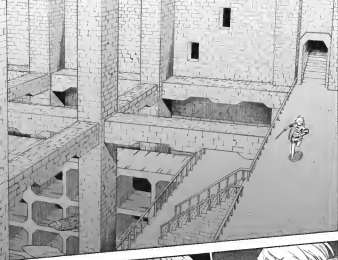
A  
MAN I  
KILLED  
.....!!

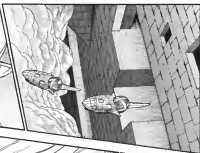












**HE'S  
NOT  
GETTING  
AWAY  
...!!**







オオオオオッ

GOOD OVERD



TAKE  
OFF AL-  
READY  
!!

DAMN!  
THEY'RE  
ATTACK-  
ING...



!!?

HEY  
!!

HOLD  
ON!

WE'RE  
STILL  
OUT  
HERE...



















BUILDING  
THEM DIDN'T  
TAKE LONG FOR  
THE SKILLED  
CRAFTSMEN  
WE Hired.

SPLendid,  
AREN'T  
THEY?

FATHER  
...  
THESE  
ARE...

SO  
WHY...?

BUT THE  
IMPERIAL  
ARMY'S BEEN  
SLOW IN ITS  
PAYMENTS  
LATELY.....

YOU STILL  
UNDERSTAND  
NOTHING ABOUT  
COMMERCE...

...BARE-  
STAR.



*Barestar*  
◆ II ◆





ONCE THE WAR IS OVER, WE'LL REAP THE REWARDS OF FURTHER BUSINESS WITH THE EMPIRE.

SELLING THESE TO THE EMPIRE WILL EARN US A DEBT OF GRATITUDE.



...OUR BUSINESS WILL FALL AS WELL.



ABOVE ALL ELSE, IF THE EMPEROR FALLS AND NISCHTECH COMES TO RULE...



...SO YOU'RE NOT THINKING LIKE A MERCHANT.

I KNOW YOU'RE VERY CLOSE TO THE EMPEROR, FATHER...



THE CURRENT EMPEROR IS STRONG. AND HE'S NO FOOL.

HE WILL BE TRUE TO HIS WORD.



I FORESEE NO LACK OF ENTERING OPPORTUNITIES THROUGHOUT HIS RULE.

HMPH...



F-FATHER...  
YOU'D  
HAND OVER  
YOUR OWN  
SON.....

...JUST TO  
CURRY FAVOR  
WITH THE  
EMPEROR?



M...

...  
ME!!?

UNLIKE  
YOUR  
BROTHERS,  
YOU  
HAVEN'T AN  
OUNCE OF  
BUSINESS  
SENSE.

BUT  
YOU ARE  
STRONG.



SO HERE  
I AM LEFT  
WONDER-  
ING...

...WHAT  
TO DO  
WITH  
YOU.

YOUR  
BROTHERS  
ARE MAKING  
IT ON THEIR  
OWN AS  
MERCHANTS.

BARE-  
STAR.



I EXPECT  
YOU'LL  
LEARN A  
LOT FROM  
THEM.

THE EMPIRE'S  
BRAVEST WILL  
SOON SET  
OUT ON THIS  
MISSION.



.....THE  
EMPEROR IS  
SEARCHING FOR  
BRAVE WARRIORS  
TO SEND TO THE  
SEAL ALTAR DEEP  
IN THE FOREST  
OF DEATH.

YOU'RE  
GOING...

...BARE-  
STAR.



JUST...

...I'M NOT  
ASKING FOR  
ACCOLADES.



...COME  
BACK  
ALIVE.







ASCHERIT!!!







YOU  
...

YOU  
...

YOU  
.....



!

.....  
YOU  
KNOW  
WHO I  
AM....?

BARE-  
STAR...



.....A.....

...AH...

ASCH.....

ASCHERIT!!?





**YOU  
CAME  
FOR  
ME!!**



**!!?**





EVEN...  
IF HE  
CALLED  
ME  
"GOOD-  
FOR-  
NOTH-  
ING"...

...WHY  
COULDN'T  
I KEEP  
WORKING  
AT  
FATHER'S  
SIDE...?



WHY  
AM I  
HERE  
AT  
ALL!?



I  
SHOULDN'T  
BE  
HERE.....

TAKE  
ME  
HOME...

.....  
LET'S  
GO  
HOME  
...







WHERE'S  
LEMMA  
.....?

ASCHER-  
IIT.

WELL,  
ASCHER-  
IIT...?



I'VE  
GOT...

...A  
THING  
OR TWO  
TO SAY  
TO  
FATHER  
...



SOME-  
DAY.....

WELL,  
AS-  
CHERIT?

I'LL  
SHOW  
YOU  
AROUND.

...I  
HOPE  
YOU'LL  
VISIT  
ME IN  
LEMBA  
SOME-  
DAY.

BUT  
WHEN  
THAT DAY  
COMES...

SURE,  
FATHER WILL  
SCOLD  
ME EVERY  
DAY, EVEN  
IN HIS  
RETIRE-  
MENT.

I'LL BE  
A GREAT  
MER-  
CHANT.

...I'LL  
RETURN  
HOME TO  
LEMBA.

WHEN  
OUR  
MISSION  
IS  
OVER...

AS-  
CHERIT.







THE  
HOME  
YOU SO  
DESPER-  
ATELY  
WANTED  
TO  
RETURN  
TO...



...AND  
THE  
HUMBLE  
FUTURE  
YOU  
SOUGHT  
FOR  
YOUR-  
SELF...  
ALL  
LOST.....







YOU  
LOST  
SIGHT  
OF THE  
WAY  
HOME.

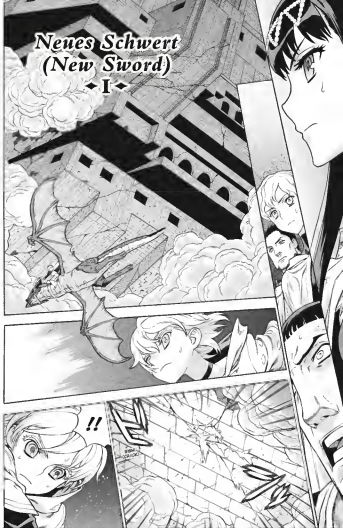
HOW  
WERE YOU  
PLANNING  
TO  
SHOW ME  
AROUND  
AFTER  
THAT...?

RECORD  
BARE-  
STAR...

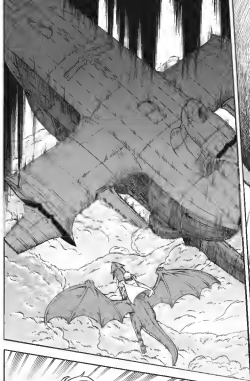


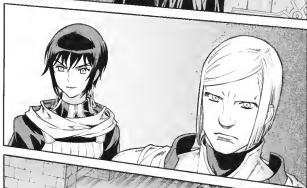
*Nenes Schwert*  
(New Sword)

◆ I ◆











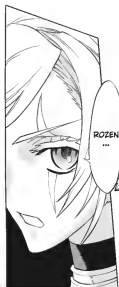




THAT'S  
HIM

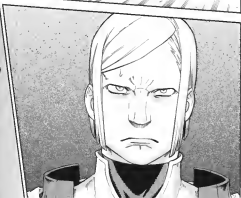
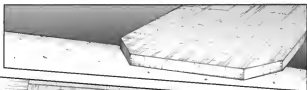


KÖINZELL!!



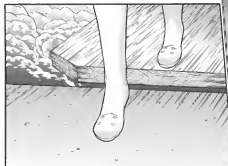
ROZEN











VERY  
WELL  
DONE.





I CAN  
HARDLY  
IMAGINE THE  
REWARDS  
THAT WOULD  
AWAIT ME.

WHAT IF I  
WERE TO  
BRING DOWN  
THE MAN  
WHO KILLED  
ALL SEVEN  
OF THE  
HEROES...?



ICH-  
FEIS!!



.....



YEAH.

TWO IS  
PLENTY.



CALM  
DOWN.

MARQUIS  
GLENN'S  
DEATH ISN'T  
IN MY BEST  
INTERESTS.





I BELIEVE  
WE'VE MET  
ALREADY...  
THOUGH  
NOT FOR-  
MALLY.

"HERO-  
KILLING  
REBEL"

\*\*\*\*\*

"KÖIN-  
ZELL."

I'VE  
HEARD A  
LOT ABOUT  
YOU FROM  
ROZEN.



FOR THE  
HONOR  
OF MY  
MASTER...

I'M  
A SLAVE KNIGHT  
SERVING  
MARQUIS  
GLENN.

MY  
NAME IS  
ICHFELS.

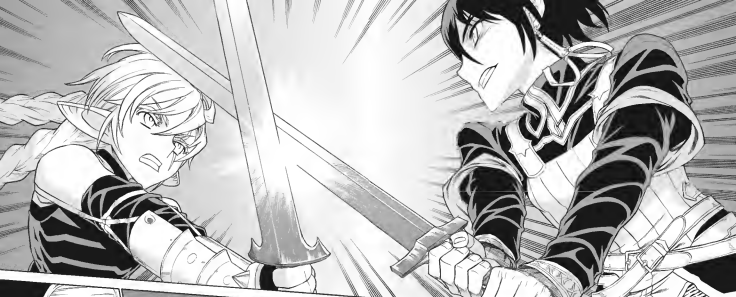


...I'LL BE  
TAKING  
YOUR  
HEAD.

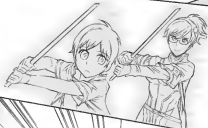


THAT  
STANCE  
.....!









*I  
SEE...*

*THE HALL OF  
SWORDS IS  
STILL UP AND  
RUNNING.....*





BETTER  
THAN  
I'D  
HOPED!

IN THIS  
AGE...  
HOW EX-  
TRAORDI-  
NARY...

...TO  
FIND  
SUCH A  
SKILLED  
USER OF  
LUDIFT'S  
STYLE!







Neues Schwert  
(New Sword)  
◆ II ◆





WHAT  
ARE  
YOU  
THINK-  
ING,  
ICH-  
FEIS?

ASKING  
TO SEE  
BLACK  
WING  
...!?



IF I WIN  
HERE...

IF I CAN  
PROVE  
MYSELF...

...BY  
BRINGING  
DOWN THE  
HERO-  
KILLER...





...I'LL EARN  
MY FREEDOM.  
I'LL BE  
RELEASED FROM  
SLAVERY.....  
...AND THEN...

...I'LL  
BECOME  
ASSISTANT  
INSTRUCTOR  
AT THE  
HALL OF  
SWORDS.

.....



...THE  
BLACK  
WING AND  
SWORD  
CREST  
.....!

AND  
FINALLY  
.....

...I'LL  
INHERIT  
...





AS A  
FELLOW  
STUDENT,  
I DON'T  
SUPPOSE  
YOU'D  
TEACH ME?

.....BUT  
FIRST, I'LL  
NEED TO  
MASTER  
THAT HIDDEN  
TECHNIQUE,  
BLACK WING.

**THE  
TITLE OF  
"BLATT  
MEISTER"  
.....!**



...IF  
YOU'RE  
TRULY  
CAPABLE  
OF USING  
BLACK  
WING  
.....!

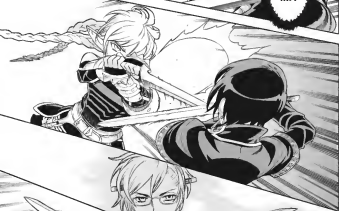
THAT  
IS...











I'VE  
NEVER  
FOUGHT<sup>1000</sup>

...LIKE  
THIS  
BEFORE!

BUT  
EVEN  
SO...

...I'M  
GOING  
TO WIN!!



OHHA  
.....!

MORE SO  
THAN EVEN  
MASTER  
GLEA.....!

SO  
SKILLED  
.....











**JUST  
WHO  
ARE  
YOU  
...!?**

**YOU...**

**...SHOW  
COMPLETE  
MASTERY...  
OF THE  
LUDIFT  
SWORD  
STYLE!!**

SAD  
DUELING



**...COULD  
BE THIS  
STRONG  
...?**

**HOW  
IS  
IT...**



**...THAT  
SUCH A  
YOUNG  
DEMI-  
HUMAN  
FROM THE  
BORDER-  
LANDS...**



AN  
ABSOLUTE  
TRAGEDY  
...!

HOW  
TRAGIC  
.....



THAT THEY  
WOULD  
SEEK TO  
DESTROY  
ONE  
ANOTHER  
HERE.....

...AND  
THIS NEW  
TALENT,  
VYING FOR  
THAT SAME  
TITLE.....

THE  
LEGENDARY  
SWORDSMAN  
ONCE NAMED  
"BLATT  
MEISTER"...



EVEN  
SO...

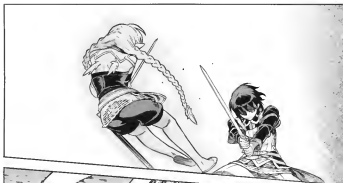
...WHAT A  
THRILLING  
FIGHT...!!















ALMOST  
AS IF.....

...YOU  
LEARNED THE  
FIGHT WITH  
A DIFFERENT  
BODY  
ALTOGETHER,  
AND THIS  
ONE IS  
STRUGGLING  
TO IMITATE...



YOUR  
SWORD  
SKILLS ARE  
BEYOND  
MEASURE.

BUT...  
IT ALMOST  
LOOKS LIKE  
YOUR BODY  
CAN'T KEEP  
UP WITH  
YOUR MOVE-  
MENTS.



BUT  
I WAS  
WRONG.

...THAT YOU  
ONCE STOOD  
TALL ON THE  
PEAK I SEEK  
TO SUMMIT  
MYSELF.....

FOR AN  
INSTANT,  
I WAS  
SURE.....



...TO  
END  
THIS.

IT'S  
TIME...





7  
10/10/10

**Neues Schwert  
(New Sword)**

◆ III ◆













HMPH.  
NO  
GOOD...

...BUT IT'S A  
TECHNIQUE  
BORN FROM  
ABSOLUTE  
MASTERY OF  
THE EIGHT  
BASIC  
FORMS.

THE  
HIDDEN  
MOVE,  
BLACK  
WING.

PERHAPS  
YOU'RE NOT  
AWARE...

I FELT  
LIKE...

...I MIGHT  
BE ABLE  
TO PULL  
OFF BLACK  
WING.....



**WITHOUT  
A  
DOUBT.....**

**!!!**

**THIS  
IS BAD!  
ICHFEIS**

\*\*\*\*\*

**...IN  
ORDER  
TO BEAT  
THIS  
BOY, I  
MUST.....**

**YOU'VE  
DISCOVERED  
AN  
INCREDIBLE  
TALENT.**

**WELL  
DONE.....**









G W A A A A H !!

!

SHOTS  
CHATTER







THERE'S  
A SLIGHT  
HESITATION  
BEHIND  
EVERY MOVE  
YOU MAKE.

YOU  
WAVER IN  
YOUR  
TECHNIQUES  
...



...FIND A  
WAY TO  
ELIMINATE THAT  
HESITATION  
FROM YOUR  
BLADE.....

I DON'T  
KNOW WHAT  
MAKES  
YOU FEEL SO  
LOST AND  
UNCERTAIN,  
BUT.....



SHEESH  
.....

I'VE MADE  
MYSELF  
ANOTHER  
FIERCE  
RIVAL.....

...WILL  
SURELY  
MASTER  
BLACK  
WING.....

...AND  
YOU...















The  
remnants  
of the  
Battery-  
grave Army  
remain in  
the Free  
City...

Several  
days  
after the  
floating  
castle fell



...but  
corrupt forces  
have begun to  
move, seeking to  
take advantage  
of those survivors  
and the recent  
confusion.



What's  
more...



...yet  
another  
terror  
lurks  
in the  
darkness



**Fahne  
(Flag)**

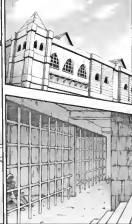
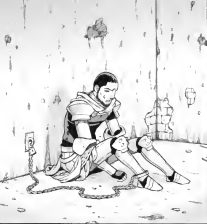




THAT'S  
SOME FLAG  
MY MEN  
MADE!

WHAT  
DO YOU  
THINK,  
ALTEA?











SHOULD THE TIDE TURN AGAINST US, WE CAN SUMMON IT TO DESTROY OUR FOES!

ACCORDING TO REPORTS...

...WITHIN THESE CULVERTS IS A TERRIBLE MONSTER LOOSED BY OUR OWN FORCES.....



IF WE'RE SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING SUPPORTING SOME BACKWOODS NOBLE, THE ODDS MUST REALLY BE AGAINST US.....

DO NOT FEAR!



SO THIS BEAST ... YOU'RE NOT WORRIED IT'LL ATTACK US?

FIRST I'VE HEARD OF IT...



A- ANYWAY, LET'S PICK UP THE PACE.....

...AND REUNITE WITH OUR MEN ABOVE GROUND!

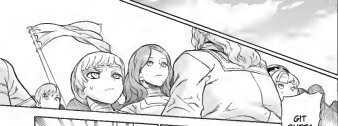


...H... HEY...

... WORRY NOT!!

W...





GIT  
OUTTA  
THE  
WAY!!



THIS IS  
OUR  
HERO'S  
FLAG!!

WE  
WILL  
NOT  
MOVE!

WE'RE  
TAKIN'  
THAT  
DOWN!!



KEEP  
KICKIN' UP  
REBELLION,  
AND I'LL  
MAKE SURE  
THIS CITY  
REALLY—

Y'ALL DARE  
RAISE A FLAG  
HONORIN' A  
MAN WHO  
TURNED ON  
TH' BATTERY-  
GRAVE ARMY?



GRRR...!!

YOU  
BACK-  
WOODS  
MOUNTAIN  
HICK!

GO  
HOME  
!!





KÖIN-  
ZELL  
!?



!!



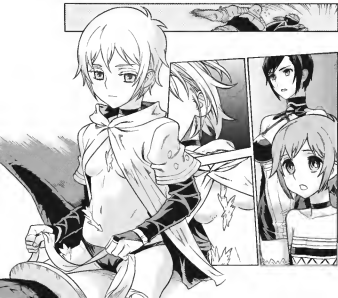




SHAMEFUL,  
INDEED.....

THAT A  
NOBLE...  
...WOULD  
COME INTO  
THE FREE  
CITY TO  
BACK IT...

UNH  
...











THEY'D ONLY TRY TO FOLLOW US.

YEAH.

SO YOU'RE LEAVING WITHOUT SAYING GOOD-BYE?







MISS  
ALTEA



**LISTEN  
UP!!**

...BUT  
SOMETHING  
LIKE THIS  
COULD  
HAPPEN  
AGAIN.

HE WAS  
HERE TO  
SAVE  
US THIS  
TIME...

SO  
WE NEED  
TO DO  
MORE...

RATHER,  
LET'S  
FOLLOW HIS  
EXAMPLE.

...THAN  
MERELY  
REVERE  
HIM AS  
OUR  
"SAVOR"  
AND  
"HERO."







ALLOW ME...

...TO  
INTRODUCE  
OUR NEW  
LEADER.

MISS  
ALTEA.







...GOING  
TO LET  
YOU  
FORGET  
THAT.

I'M  
NOT...



DIS-  
OBEYING  
ME  
ALREADY  
!?

JUST  
HOLD  
ON, NOW.  
I DON'T  
KNOW  
IF—

WHA  
...!?

NO,  
BUT, I  
MEAN...

FIRST  
ORDER OF  
BUSINESS:

LET'S HEAD  
DOWN TO  
THE SEWERS  
AND KILL THIS  
SUPPOSED  
"MONSTER."



.....

THEY SAY  
IT HAS ONE  
BIG EYE  
AND GIANT  
TENTACLES,  
AND IT EATS  
PEOPLE...

IT  
SOUNDS  
LIKE A  
PERSON  
WAILING  
AND  
GROBBING,  
STRIKING  
FEAR INTO  
ALL WHO  
HEAR IT...

EX-  
CUSE  
ME?

YOU  
DON'T  
LOOK  
TOO  
TASTY.

YOU  
SHOULD  
BE FINE,  
THEN.

# *Die Faust (The Fist)*



**FEAR  
THE  
DARK-  
NESS!!**



...HUMANS  
ARE  
UTTERLY  
DEFENSE-  
LESS!!



IN THE  
FACE OF  
TERRORS  
THAT  
LUCK IN  
SHADOW...



FEW ARE  
CAPABLE OF  
COMMANDING  
THESE  
AGENTS OF  
DARKNESS....

ONLY THOSE  
CHOSEN ONES  
WHO WIELD  
GREAT  
POWER—ONES  
SUCH AS  
MYSELF!!



FEAR  
THE  
DARK-  
NESS  
!!!

AS A  
SORCERER,  
HE'S AGREED  
TO HELP US  
CONTROL THE  
MONSTER OF  
THE CULVERTS  
WITH HIS  
MYSTICAL  
POWERS!

THIS FINE  
MAN JUST  
HAPPENED TO  
BE PASSING  
THROUGH THE  
FREE CITY.....

RAAA A AAH!



.....

BY THE WAY,  
PROVISIONAL  
FIELD  
MARSHAL...  
WHEN'S  
DINNER?

IT'S BEING  
PREPARED  
AS WE  
SPEAK.

RAAH!

FEAR  
THE  
DARK-  
NESS!



WITH HIM  
ON OUR  
SIDE, OUR  
STRENGTH  
WILL  
INCREASE  
TENFOLD!!

HMPH!  
LEAVE IT  
TO ME,  
MY DEAR  
PROVISION-  
AL FIELD  
MARSHAL!

I THANK  
YOU FOR  
JOINING  
US, SIR!



EVERY-  
ONE!

THE  
BATTERY-  
GRAVE  
ARMY'S  
GREAT  
TURNABOUT  
VICTORY IS  
CLOSE AT  
HAND!!

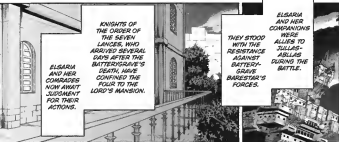
RAAH!!















WOULD  
YOU  
PLEASE  
BEHAVE  
YOUR-  
SELF?

I MEAN,  
REALLY,  
WHAT  
DID YOU  
HOPE  
TO—?

EVEN  
LOCKED  
UP IN  
HERE AS  
WE ARE...

...WE  
HEARD THAT  
SOMEONE HAS  
SPOTTED THE  
SEWER  
MONSTER!



I REFUSE  
TO PRETEND  
NOTHING IS  
HAPPENING!

THIS  
TIME, THE  
SIGHTING  
WAS NEAR  
A RESIDEN-  
TIAL AREA.



YOU'VE  
SEEN THE  
EVIDENCE,  
CORRECT?

THE  
SOLDIERS  
WHO WERE  
ATTACKED  
WERE ONLY  
SAVED THANKS  
TO THE  
VIGILANTE  
CORPS...



THAT'S  
NOT...!

THIS  
CITY...

THESE  
PEOPLE  
REBELLED  
AGAINST THE  
BATTERYGRAVE,  
SPURRED ON  
BY THE  
HERO-KILLING  
REBEL.

WHY ARE  
YOU SO  
CONCERNED  
ABOUT  
PROTECTING  
THESE  
PEOPLE?



AND  
YOU!

HOW-  
EVER  
.....

IT'S ONLY  
BECAUSE  
YOU'RE AN  
ELECTOR'S  
DAUGHTER  
THAT YOU'RE  
MERELY UNDER  
HOUSE  
ARREST.

...AND  
FAILING  
TO SEE THE  
GREATER  
CONSEQUENCES  
OF YOUR  
RECKLESS-  
NESS!

IT'S  
DISGRACE-  
FUL....BEING  
SWAYED BY  
THE REBEL'S  
CAUSE...





SO  
TAKE  
THIS  
LESSON  
TO  
HEART...

YOU'VE  
PLAYED  
THE  
HERO  
LONG  
ENOUGH.

PRIN-  
CESS.

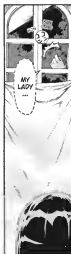






WHAT USE IS AN ORDER OF KNIGHTS NAMED AFTER THE HEROES' LANCES.....













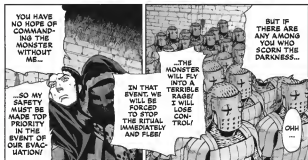
...THE  
RITUAL  
TO  
SUMMON  
THE  
MON-  
STER!

AND  
SO WE  
BEGIN...



THE FEAR  
IN YOUR  
HEARTS WILL  
BECOME THE  
MONSTER'S  
POWER!

FEAR  
THE  
DARK-  
NESS!



YOU HAVE  
NO HOPE OF  
COMMAND-  
ING THE  
MONSTER  
WITHOUT  
ME...

BUT IF  
THERE ARE  
ANY AMONG  
YOU WHO  
SCORN THE  
DARKNESS...

...SO MY  
SAFETY  
MUST BE  
MADE TOP  
PRIORITY  
IN THE  
EVENT OF  
OUR EVAC-  
UATION!

IN THAT  
EVENT, WE  
WILL BE  
FORCED  
TO STOP  
THE RITUAL  
IMMEDIATELY  
AND FLEE!

...THE  
MONSTER  
WILL FLY  
INTO A  
TERRIBLE  
RAGE! I  
WILL LOSE  
CON-  
TROL!

OHH  
...





WHAT ABOUT THE GUARD!?

DAWN THEM...

!?

THEY'RE ESCAPING!



I TOLD YOU, ENOUGH PLAYING HERO ALR—

YOU STILL DON'T GET IT.....







SO I  
ASSURE  
YOU, MY  
FATHER  
WOULD  
FEEL NO  
SHAME TO  
KNOW.....

...THAT  
I'VE LAID  
FLAT A  
MAN WHO  
TOLD ME TO  
ABANDON  
THE  
PEOPLE!!



...CON-  
TINUALLY  
PROVE TO  
THOSE  
BENEATH  
HER THAT  
SHE IS  
DESERVING  
OF THAT  
POWER.



MY  
FATHER,  
ARCHZALT  
RAHN-  
CLAVE,  
TAUGHT  
ME.....

...THAT  
ONE  
WHO IS  
PLACED IN  
A POSITION  
OF POWER  
MUST, FOR  
AS LONG  
AS SHE  
LIVES...







THERE'S  
NO TIME  
TO LOSE.

FIRST  
WE MUST  
STOP THAT  
RITUAL!

AND  
THEN...

FROM  
WHAT  
WE CAN  
TELL...

...THOSE  
ARMY GOONS  
HAVE HIRED  
A SORCERER  
AND ARE  
HOLDING A  
RITUAL TO  
SUMMON THE  
MONSTER.



...WE'LL  
SLAY IT!

...WHEN  
WE FIND  
THAT  
MON-  
STER...



MISS  
ALTEA!

MISS  
...



LET'S  
MOVE!



?

# Flamme (Flame)



I...  
I WANNA  
HELP!

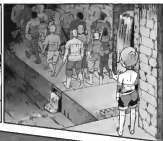
I  
WANNA  
GO  
TOO!

BE  
A GOOD  
GIRL AND  
STAND  
GUARD  
HERE.

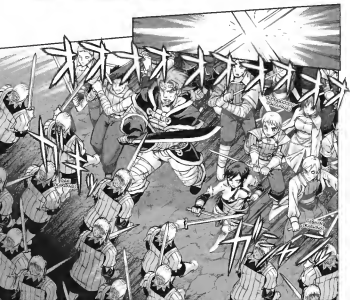
WE'LL  
BE FINE,  
PEEPI.

.....











HOLD  
THEM  
BACK!!

GUARD  
THE  
ALTAR  
AT ALL  
COSTS!



MIGHT AS  
WELL TAKE  
OUT THESE  
GUYS,  
THOUGH...

STOP  
THIS  
RITUAL!



LOOKS  
LIKE THE  
MONSTER  
STILL  
WASN'T  
SHOWN!



THE  
MON-  
STER'S  
COMING  
!!?



THE  
M—



OUR  
SORCERER  
WILL SOON  
COMPLETE  
THE  
RITUAL!

THEN THE  
MONSTER  
WILL  
JOIN OUR  
CAUSE!

UNTIL HE  
ARRIVES





ZZ...ZZZZZ..

G N A A A H !!?



YOWCH!!



EEP  
....!!



!!?



WH...

...WHERE'D  
YOU COME  
FROM,  
GIRL?

NNH

UNH







ARE  
YOU ALL  
RIGHT?

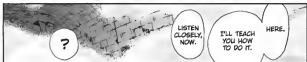
BRAVE  
LITTLE  
ONE.



WAAAAH!















SIR  
SOR-  
CERER  
!!

PLEASE,  
WAIT!!

SIR  
SOR-  
CERER  
!!



SIR  
SORCERER  
!!?



HA-HA-  
HA-HA-  
HA-HA-  
HA-HA-  
HA-HA!!

THAT  
BAS-  
TARD  
...!!

BUT  
WHY  
...?



I'M CHIEF  
WARRIOR  
MONK  
RASCHER  
!!!

MON-  
STERS?  
HA! I  
CAN'T  
CON-  
TROL  
THEM!!

I'M NO  
SOR-  
CERER  
!!



IT'S  
THE  
MON-  
STER!!

U  
W  
A  
A  
A  
H  
!!?



!!

!!?







...ONLY TO  
BE KILLED  
BY SOME  
OCTOPUS  
MONSTER  
...?

I  
BARELY  
ESCAPED  
WITH MY  
LIFE...

...AND  
MADE  
IT THIS  
FAR...

EEEEEEK!

LOOKS  
YOU  
REALLY  
ARE A  
SORCERER!  
THE  
MONSTER  
HAS  
APPEARED  
...

!!?

THERE  
IT IS!!

WHO...

WAIT  
!!

THE  
MON-  
STER  
!!?



WHO  
ARE YOU  
CALLING  
AN  
OCTOPUS  
MON-  
STER!!?



GUGUYAH!









...BUT  
THEN THE  
THING IN BIG  
BRO'S BODY  
LATCHED  
ONTO ME...

THE  
CASTLE  
WAS  
COLLAPS-  
ING ALL  
AROUND  
ME...



THIS  
BODY.....  
IT'S  
SUPER-  
EMBAR-  
RASSING!

AW,  
DON'T  
LOOK  
AT ME!



MR.  
GERAN-  
PEN.....



...I MAY  
SOME-  
HOW  
ATONE  
FOR BIG  
BRO'S  
CRIMES.

I'VE  
BEEN  
HIDING  
HERE  
SINCE  
THEN...

I'VE  
BEEN  
GIVEN A  
SECOND  
CHANCE.

I HOPE  
THAT  
WITH  
THIS...



NO!  
THERE'S NO  
REASON TO  
FEEL EMBAR-  
RASSED!





I FEEL  
AWFUL  
JUST  
THINKING  
ABOUT  
IT.....

BUT HE'S  
ALWAYS SO  
SAD.....

KOIN-  
ZELL  
IS...  
...  
REALLY,  
REALLY  
STRONG,  
BUT...



I HAVE  
TO DO  
SOME-  
THING  
.....!

I  
HAVE  
TO...

SO  
I...





THAT WAY  
MISS  
ALTEA  
WON'T  
HAVE TO  
WORRY.

THEN,  
LET ME  
GO WITH  
YOU!



.....I  
WILL!



JUST BE  
CAREFUL  
OUT  
THERE.



THEY  
WILL  
CERTAINLY  
BRING  
FRESH  
ENERGY  
TO OUR  
GROUP.

I  
SUP-  
POSE  
WE  
COULD.



I BELIEVE  
THE GIRL IS  
BRIMMING  
WITH  
POTENTIAL!

WELL,  
MY  
LADY??

WHY  
NOT TAKE  
THESE  
TWO WITH  
US.....?



?

OUR  
DESTINA-  
TION IS  
WITHOUT  
QUES-  
TION.

SO  
I HOPE  
YOU'RE  
ALL  
PREPARED  
.....

HOW-  
EVER!





I  
CANNOT ALLOW  
.....

...THE  
BATTERY-  
GRAVE'S  
RAMPAGE  
TO GO UN-  
ANSWERED  
.....



WE MAKE  
FOR THE  
CAPITAL  
.....

THE  
EMPEROR  
PRESIDES  
OVER THE  
COUNCIL,  
SO I WILL  
TESTIFY  
ABOUT WHAT'S  
HAPPENED  
HERE!

THE TEN  
KINGS OF  
THE ROUND  
WILL MEET  
TO JUDGE  
NOBLES, AS  
IT ALWAYS  
DOES.



SER-  
IOUS-  
LY...?

...IF  
WE  
HEAD  
FOR THE  
CAPITAL  
.....

MY  
LADY,  
GIVEN  
OUR  
CURRENT  
SITUA-  
TION...

!!?

Slave knights faithfully serve nobles of the empire, although they lack the rights of ordinary citizens.

Warriors of this class can be purchased directly from slavers, but nobles have also been known to select outstanding slaves and even free citizens to be groomed for the role.

By proving themselves in battle, slave knights can be promoted to full knights and can even become nobles and land-holding lords themselves.

Around 2100 A.D. (Anno Domestico)...

Regional lords who lived near the southern border of the empire and possessed large squads of slave knights were called upon by the imperial army to aid in the war against southern tribes. Their slave knights joined the fight and proved themselves on the battlefield.

However, the slave knights become increasingly dissatisfied as they were sent to die on the front lines during war with Wischtech, Land of Shadows, leading to an eventual revolt.

This revolt would only worsen discrimination against slave knights within the empire.



Efahleg

The legendary slave knight Efahleg—leader of the Flagprongher slave knight squad—emerged during this conflict.

# SLAVE KNIGHTS

## SKLAVERITTER

Efshleg was sold to the Angram slave knight squad as a child, and it was there that he learned to despise the corrupt imperial army of the time. He would drift from squad to squad, encountering other warriors.

Efshleg learned much from his cohort of skilled, educated warriors, and he distinguished himself in battle against the southern tribes.

Like many slave knights, Efshleg resented the imperial army and nobles, but an encounter with the legendary Empress Radnaglis would forever alter his fate.

In 2177 A.D., Emperor Hanba VII was assassinated during the height of war with Wischtech, throwing imperial politics into chaos. Nobles vying for the throne turned against each other on the battlefield, which did nothing to improve matters.



Then the slave knight squads revolted.

Efshleg's Angram squad joined in the rebellion against the empire.

However, the young Radnaglis was, at the time, a noble leading her own dauntless squad against the forces of Wischtech. Efshleg was immediately enamored with her, so he parted ways with the squad that had raised him.

In the ruins of Radnaglis's hometown, Flagprongher, Efshleg formed a new squad of slave knights.

The Flagprongher squad suppressed the other squads of revolting slave knights, who were then added to Efshleg's numbers. Efshleg then joined with Radnaglis, and together their forces were enough to stave off Wischtech's attack.

This ended the war.

#### Radnaglis

Radnaglis's squad, garbed in distinctive black armor, was known for its godlike speed in battle. Her ally though it was, the imperial army feared her and dubbed her "The Wolf's Daughter."

After the war, the empire feared the Flugprongher slave knight squad, as it had grown massive after absorbing most of the southern squads. As such, Flugprongher was judged to be no better than the squads that had rebelled, and plans were put in motion to destroy it.

However, the newly crowned Empress Radnaglia I exposed and crushed this scheme in its infancy.

At Radnaglia's imperial command, every member of the Flugprongher squad was released from slavery and made a proper knight.

What's more, Efahleg was made the first lord commander of the Flugprongher knight squad.

So ended an era: never again would large-scale slave knight squads be used in war.

Efahleg soon married Empress Radnaglia I and was appointed king of southern Szalioh.

Many of their children would be married off to southern lords, forming a basis for peace that has lasted ever since.

In present day, the remaining slave knight squads in the empire are far smaller in scale.

The child of a noble family that has lost its honor for whatever reason can be employed as a slave knight by other nobles and lords and may then have the chance to restore his or her family's good name.

Employing such slave knights—thereby giving them these opportunities—is seen as one of the duties of nobles of the empire.

# ÜBEL BLATT ③

---

Etorouji Shiono

Translation: Caleb D. Cook • Lettering: Abigail Blackman

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